

# MARCH

at the

## CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

### MARCH MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, March 16 at 7:30  
and again at 8:30 p.m.  
PLACE: Morrison Auditorium  
SPEAKER: Dr. Earl S. Herald  
SUBJECT: "AMAZON ADVENTURE"

The Academy's nationally-known Superintendent-Curator of Steinhart Aquarium was asked, in the autumn of 1965, to be part of the "Aquarium of Niagara Falls Expedition to the Amazon," a trip subsidized by the named organization.

The purposes of the expedition, performed mainly at the headwaters of the Amazon in the Lethem area on the British Guiana-Brazilian border, were three-fold: (1) Field study and capture of freshwater dolphins (*Sotalia and Inia*); (2) review of the natural history of piranhas with emphasis on the giant black species; and (3) capture and transport of the candiru-type catfishes known for their unusual manner of attack on the human body. Dr. Herald was pleased to be part of the group and particularly enthusiastic in that a mate for Steinhart's specimen of *Inia*, the lovable freshwater dolphin, "Whiskers," might be in the offing.

The party, with Dr. Herald, included William Kelley, President of Aquariums Systems, Inc., which built and operates the Niagara Falls Aquarium; Jessop Smith, logistician; Stanton Waterman, photographer-lecturer; and Win Brady, biologist and Director of Niagara Falls Aquarium.

Because of Dr. Herald's prominence in the Bay Area and his built-in popularity through a decade of appearances on "Science in Action," the program will be offered to the membership at both 7:30 and approximately 8:30 p.m. No one will be seated after the first program has begun. It will be illustrated with both color slides and color motion pictures.

### SPECIAL EXHIBITS

From the Academy Collections, Main Foyer, Science Museum: "CELESTIAL GLOBE." Continues through March.

"13TH ANNUAL BAY AREA SCIENCE FAIR" starring finalists in this yearly event. Throughout Simson African Hall March 26 through March 30.

The membership's attention is directed to three new permanent exhibits recently completed and on view in various parts of the Academy: "Rulers of the Earth" and "First Vertebrates" in Fossil Hall, and "John James Audubon," Main Foyer, Science Museum.

"SCIENCE IN ACTION" (Schedule for viewers in the San Francisco Bay Area: Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m., with a repeat telecast on Sundays at 6:00 p.m., KQED Channel 9. For other areas, consult the listings in your local paper.)

#### Week of

March 9-13: "CRASH RESEARCH," with Guest Scientist Dr. Harry W. Case, Associate Director, Institute of Transportation and Traffic Engineering.

March 16-20: "CRIMINALISTICS," with Dr. Paul. L. Kirk, Professor of Criminalistics, University of California.

March 23-27: "ELECTRON MICROSCOPE," Dr. James H. McAlear, University of California Electron Microscope Laboratory.

March 30-April 4: "VITICULTURE," with Don W. McColly, President and General Manager, Wine Institute.

## NEWS and NOTES . . . . .

THE MOST RECENT scientific publication of the Academy is worthy of special note. *Occasional Paper* No. 48, dated February 16, 1966, is "Introduced Mollusks of Western North America" by G Dallas Hanna, Curator, Department of Geology. It was produced completely in the Academy Printing Shop, is 108 pages illustrated with 85 figures and four plates in full color. The latter, of fine quality, indicates further the excellent results being gained by the staff members involved in perfecting this comparatively inexpensive color process. It is not usual to have such color work in scientific publications.

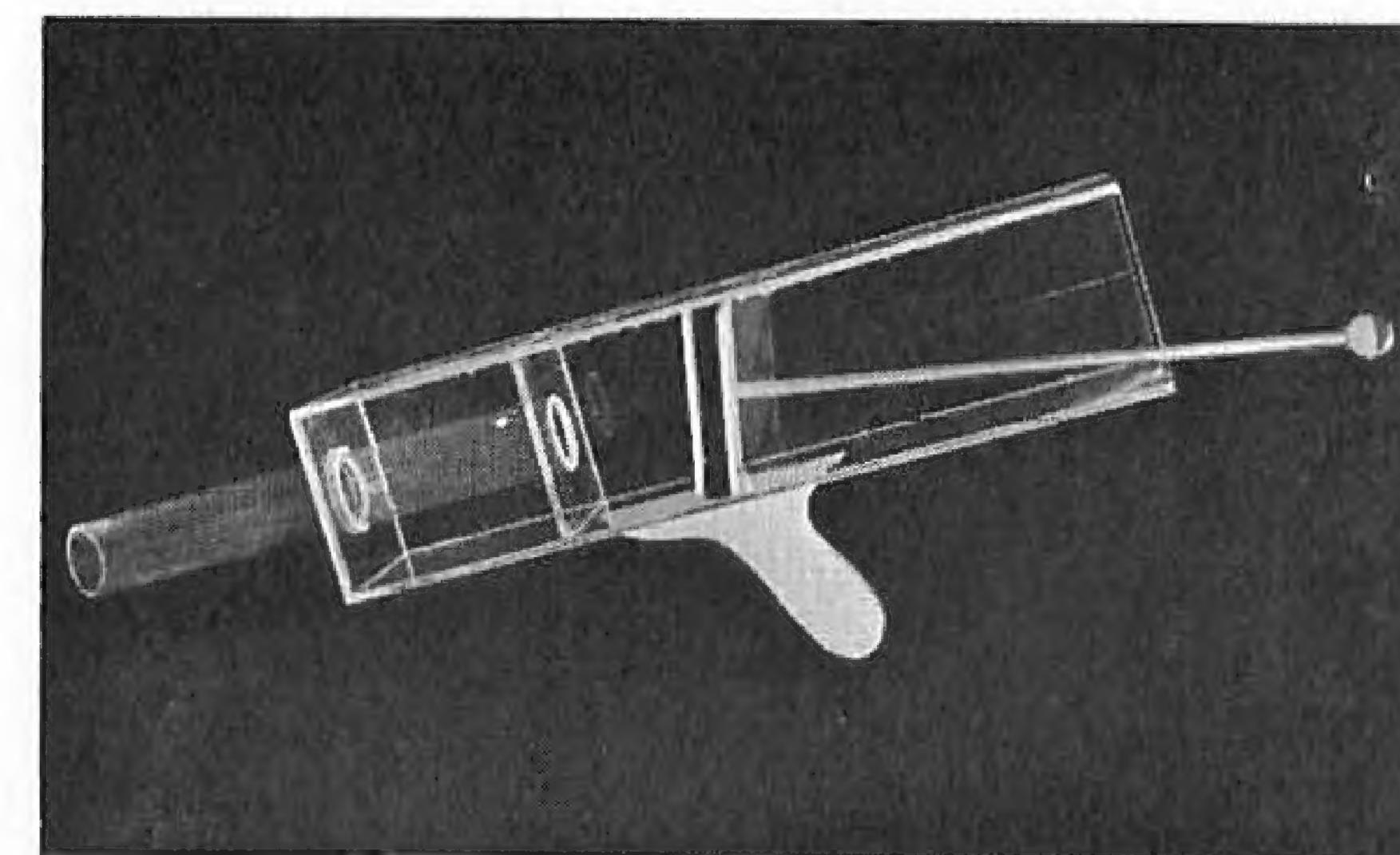
This *Occasional Paper* may be had by writing the Academy. Price, including tax, postage and handling: \$3.25.

THE College of Marin, Kentfield, California, has donated an excellent collection of Mexican reptiles to Steinhart Aquarium to add to its exhibits. The new acquisitions include a coral snake, a lyre snake, 2 baby

Mexican boa constrictors, a Sonoran racer, a red racer, a desert gopher snake, 2 basilisk lizards, 3 scaly lizards and 2 spiny-tailed iguanas.

THE JOHN A. MCCARTHY Foundation has recently made a most welcome gift of \$1,000 to honor the memory of its late founder. The money is stipulated for use by the Alexander F. Morrison Planetarium.

PHOTOGRAPHERS from 36 states and 10 foreign countries will be represented in the "Seventh Annual San Francisco International Exhibition of Nature Photographs" to be held in Morrison Auditorium at the Academy on the evening of Friday, March 18, 8:00 p.m. This is a free public showing to all interested persons.



THE ITEM PICTURED is neither a weapon for outer space nor for Agent 007. Rather, it is for inner space being a new development in the design of "slurp" guns used by the Scuba divers who collect finny citizens for residence in Steinhart Aquarium.

The plastic gun is aimed at a prospective client. The plunger is pushed forward slightly, creating a flow of water toward the fish who more often than not will turn and face the source of movement. When the prize is in the proper position, the plunger is pulled back sharply, and "slurp!", the captive is inside the rear chamber. The fish is then encouraged gently into the front chamber and the small area around the barrel of the gun. The diver can then surface and release his prize into a collecting tank whereby the population of Steinhart Aquarium, numbering some 10,000 specimens, is increased by one.

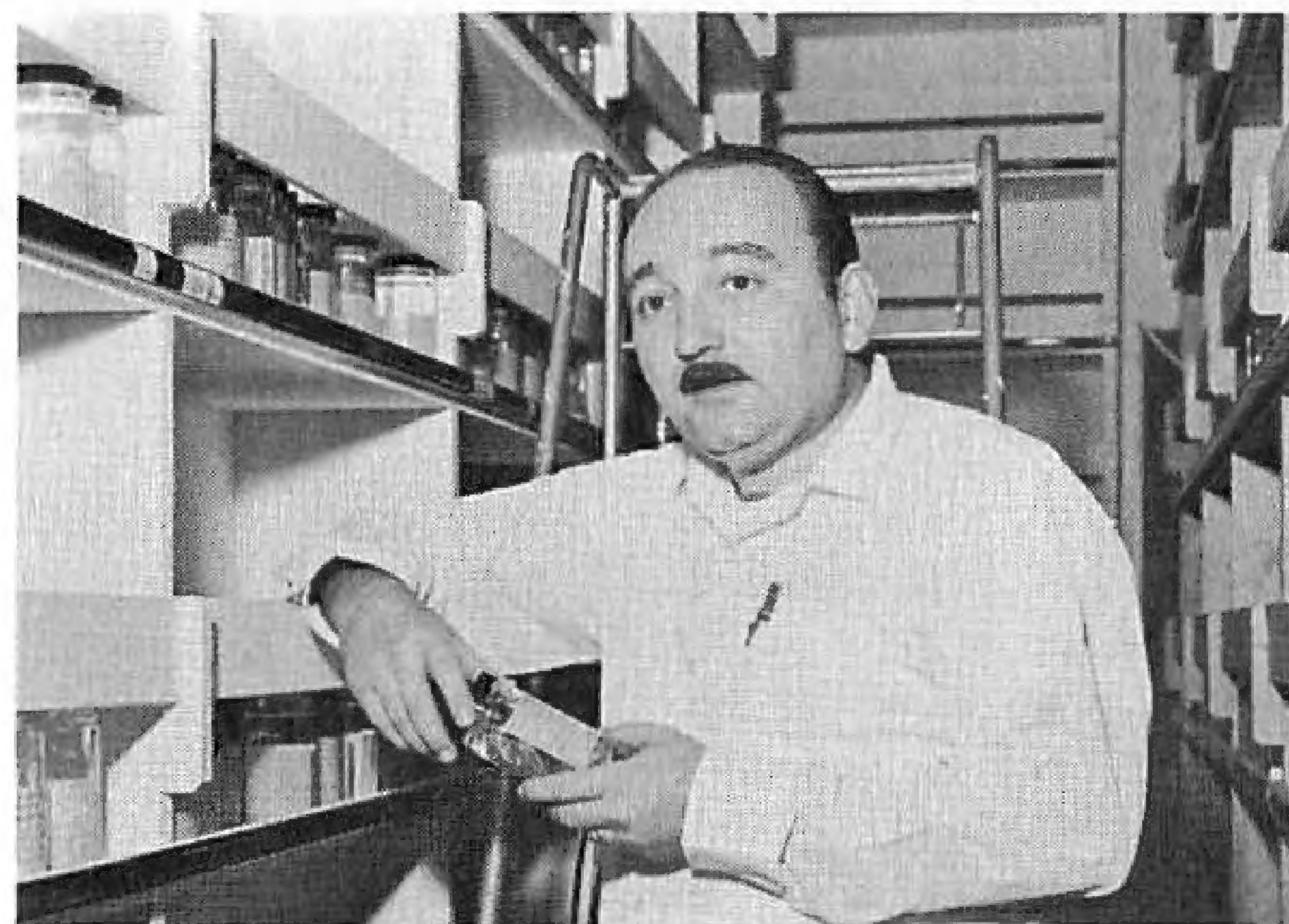


**F**OUCAULT PENDULUMS #14 and #15 constructed in the Academy's Instrument Shop are now being installed in the Alpena Museum in Alpena, Michigan, and at Smith College, Northhampton, Massachusetts. Alvin C. Gundred, Superintendent in the Shop, is supervising the two installations.

**O**NCE AGAIN, the Academy wishes to express its sincere appreciation to those members who voluntarily changed their category of membership to a higher one as was suggested in the December notices of dues. As most of you know, our financial situation is quite often nip and tuck: "nips" that hurt when money is taken from our endowment funds which cause "tucks" in an already tight budget. Your increased support helps measurably. Thank you.

**O**UR DEPARTMENT OF ORNITHOLOGY and Mammalogy is, as are all Academy departments, on many mailing lists both pertinent and im-. But a recent address somehow tops them all: "Department of Bonds and Manuals. California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, California."

## MEET THE STAFF



**DUSTIN D. CHIVERS**, Technical Assistant in the Department of Invertebrate Zoology, was first associated with the Academy when a graduate student at San Francisco State College. During 1958-1959, he was a supervisor in the Student Section on a part-time basis.

His interest in animals without backbones goes as far back as his childhood when his father took him

shell collecting along San Francisco's breakwaters. At State, he received his Bachelor of Arts degree in biology and was pursuing graduate studies in Invertebrate Zoology when a reserve status with the U.S. Army pulled him back into active duty during the Berlin crisis. After not one but two military interruptions, Dusty was employed with the California Department of Fish and Game at Monterey in an extensive salmon survey. Two and a half years were spent in a study of scale sampling, length frequencies, statistical analyses of commercial catches, and what-have-you.

When the IZ Department was reactivated in early 1964 (through the benefactions of a National Science Foundation grant), he returned to the Academy. In the brief years since the reactivation, some 200,000 specimens have been organized by the small staff with thousands more awaiting service, and collecting still going on at an accelerated rate. Some of the accumulated material dates back to the 1840s—a decade before the Academy came into being.

Skin diving and fishing (a real busman's holiday), sculpting in beeswax and clay, and painting water colors are happy, off-time pursuits for Dusty. He is joined in the latter by his wife Lynn and a three year-old son named Dana. Dana is already an avid beachcomber.

## NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

### Regular Membership

M. Kenneth R. Anderson	Mrs. Donald Joseph
Mr. Fred R. Bammann, Jr.	Miss Ida J. Koch
Dr. V. L. Bergeron	Mr. & Mrs. C. J. Krueger
Dr. M. C. Bolender	Miss Alice E. Martin
Mr. John P. Boswell	Mr. Michael Missakian
Dr. Gordon A. Carman	Miss Betty Anne McCarthy
Mr. Robert K. Dann	Dr. A. W. Nauss
Mrs. T. E. Dum	Mr. Dennis O'Donnell
Mr. Eric Fenton	Miss Elisabeth Ann O'Loughlin
Mr. R. S. Fogelsanger	Dr. Robert Ornduff
Mr. Keith H. Gerlach	Mr. John Rawlings
Mr. James R. Harvey	Mr. Matthias F. Reese
Miss Dorothy A. Herbert	Mr. Russell Surian

### Family Membership

Mr. A. B. Alexander	Mr. Howard McCleece
Mr. Joseph A. Connor	Mr. William H. Peniston
Mr. George Corcoran	Dr. & Mrs. G. Rene Pieper
Mr. & Mrs. William C. Schlueter	

### Student Membership

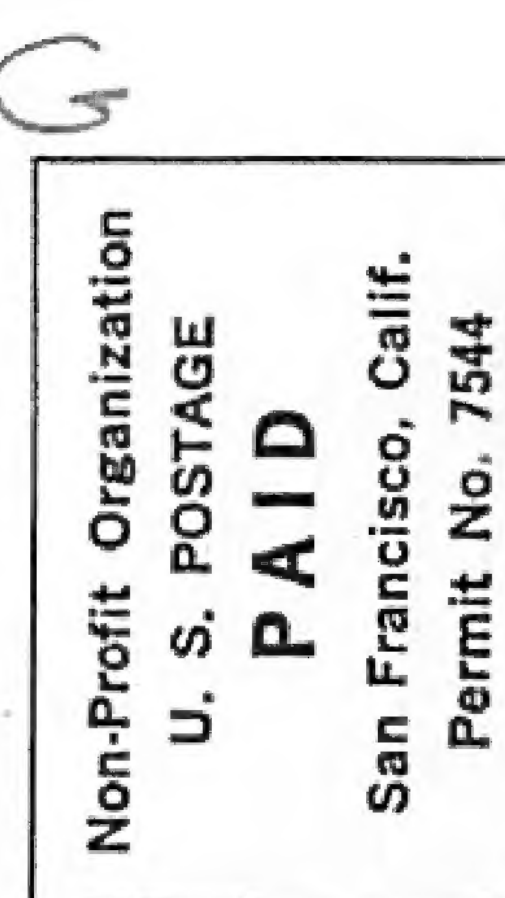
Douglas Durant	Duncan Wilson
David Lindsey	Cameron Wilson

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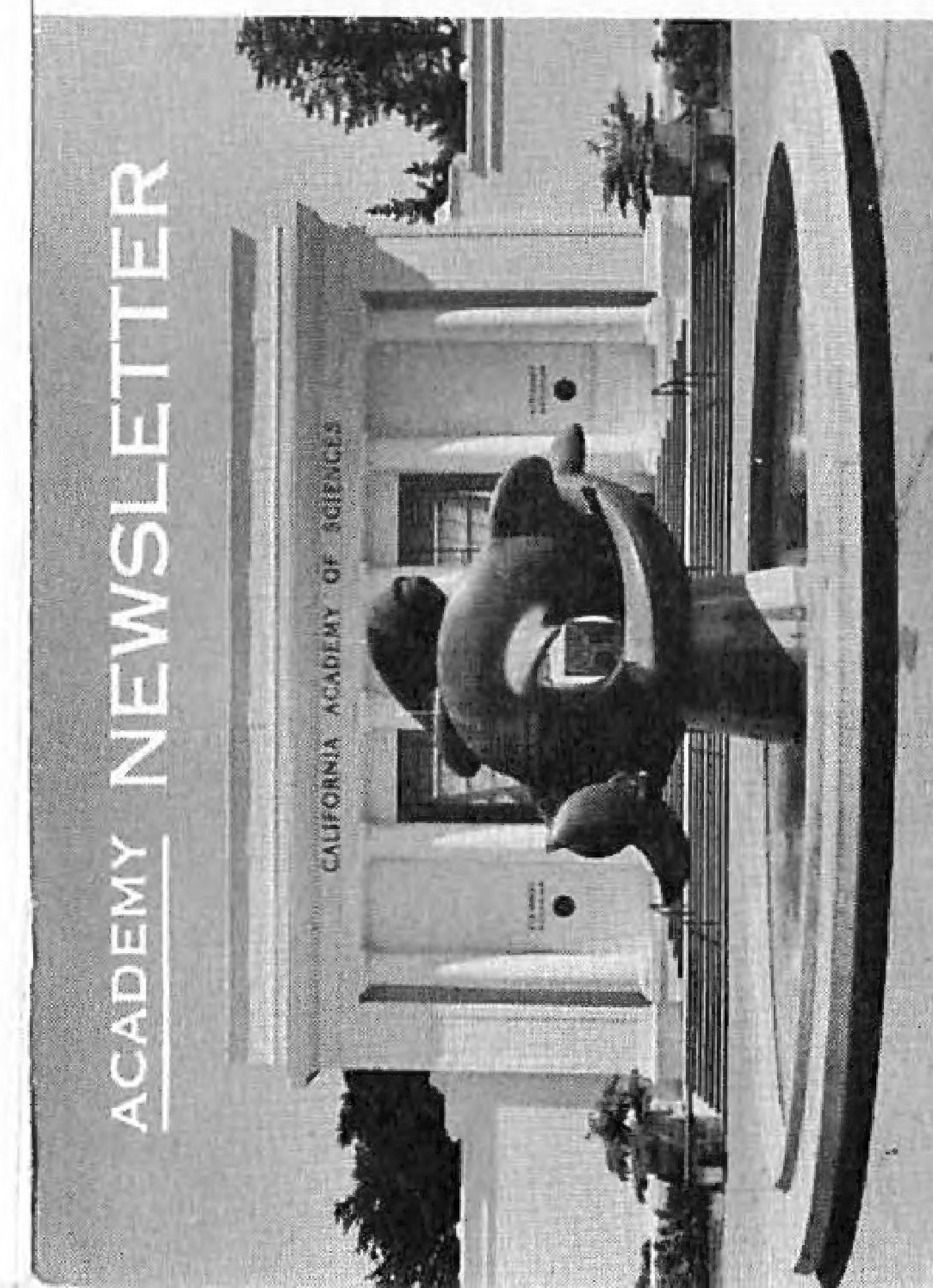
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